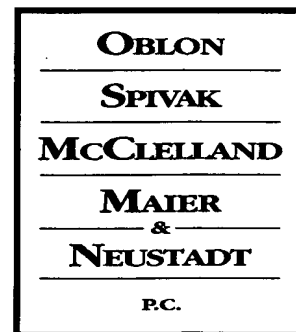




IFW

Docket No.: 250373US3

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

C. IRVIN McCLELLAND
(703) 413-3000
IMCCLELLAND@OBLON.COM

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/800,863
Applicants: Haruo AKIBA
Filing Date: March 16, 2004
For: BRANCHING PASSAGE ASSEMBLY FOR
ENDOSCOPIC BIOPSY CHANNEL
Group Art Unit: 3731

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

First Office Action Status Request (in duplicate)

Our check in the amount of \$0 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

C. Irvin McClelland
Registration No. 21,124

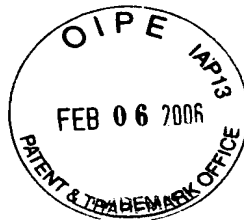
Customer Number

22850

(703) 413-3000 (phone)
(703) 413-2220 (fax)

Roland E. Martin
Registration No. 48,082

DOCKET NO.: 250373US3/sta



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Haruo AKIBA

SERIAL NO: 10/800,863

GROUP NO: 3731

FILED: March 16, 2004

FOR: BRANCHING PASSAGE ASSEMBLY FOR ENDOSCOPIC BIOPSY
CHANNEL

FIRST OFFICE ACTION STATUS REQUEST

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Patent Office is respectfully requested to inform the undersigned of the approximate date a first Official Action will be issued in this Application.

A duplicate of this letter is enclosed for your convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

C. Irvin McClelland
Registration No. 21,124

Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000
Fax. (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 10/04)

Roland E. Martin
Registration No. 48,082